

Serial No. 09/998,975

JAB-1669

REMARKS

Claims 1-6,10-20 and 38 are pending in this application. Claims 21-37 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter thereof. The Examiner has allowed claims 1-6, 11, 13-20 and 38. Claims 5, 10, 12 and 38 are amended.

Support for the amendment to claims 10 and 12 is found in the Specification at page 6, lines 1-2. Support for the change in dependency from claim 10 to claim 11, made in claim 12, is found in the Specification generally at pages 5-8.

Support for the amendment to claims 5 and 38 is found in original claim 1 and in the Specification at page 5, lines 1-6.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, "as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention" (Office Action at page 2). Specifically, the Examiner asserts that it remains "unclear as to which compound gets converted into which" in step (c) (Office Action at 2).

Applicants have amended claims 10 and 12, without disclaimer or prejudice. Applicants respectfully submit that as amended claims 10 and 12 comport fully with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and accordingly, the rejection is rendered moot. Withdrawal of the rejection, and passage of the claims to allowance, is respectfully requested.

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Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance of claims 1-6,10-20 and 38 be issued in this case. The Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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